## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02659 141349Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /081 W

-----141509Z 033774/50

R 141247Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1700 INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI AMEMBASSY DOHA AMEMBASSY JIDDA AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 2659

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, EAID

SUBJECT: KUWAIT FINANCE MINISTER MAY BE COMING TO CAIRO: ARAB

AID EFFORT

REF: A CAIRO 2598 B JIDDA 1231 (NOTAL)

- 1. KUWAIT EMBOFF TELLS US THAT MINFIN ATEEQI IS DUE IN CAIRO ON FEBRUARY 18 FOR WHAT IS DESCRIBED AS A VISIT THAT HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR SOME TIME. ATEEQI WILL BE HERE FOR SEVERAL DAYS, FOR TALKS WITH VARIOUS OFFICIALS.
- 2. SOURCE, FIRST SECRETARY MOUNIRA AL BADER,
  WHO IS ATTACHED TO ARAB ECONOMIC UNITY COUNCIL IN
  ADDITION TO HER EMBASSY DUTIES, WAS NOT VERY FORTHCOMING
  WITH DETAILS FOR THE VISIT. SHE WAS NOT VERY
  ENTHUSIASTIC OVER EGYPTIAN ECONOMIC PROSPECTS EITHER,
  AND TO THIS EXTENT APPEARS TO REFLECT THE VIEWS OF HER
  GOVERNMENT AS UNDERSTOOD HERE.
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3. COMMENT. SAUDI EMBASSY HERE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT SAG HAS UNDERTAKEN AN EFFORT TO RAISE ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR EGYPT. WE ARE TOLD THAT DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO KUWAIT FONMIN SAUD STRESSED POLITICAL NATURE OF EGYPTIAN PROBLEM, MAKING POINT THAT ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS ARE TEMPORARILY SECONDARY. SAUDIS ARE REPORTEDLY CONSIDERING A DIRECT

CONTRIBUTION OF THEIR OWN IN THE NEXT MONTH OR SO, AMOUNT UNSPECIFIED, TO KEEP SADAT AFLOAT PENDING LARGER, CONCERTED ARAB PACKAGE.

4. KUWAITIS ARE REPORTEDLY THE MOST RELUCTANT OF THE POTENTIAL ARAB DONORS, AND ATEEQI MAY BE COMING HERE TO REITERATE HIS RESERVATIONS OVER MONEY WITHOUT REFORMS. HIS VIEWS ARE GENERALLY PERCEIVED AS RELATIVELY NEGATIVE WHERE ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT IS CONCERNED, BUT HE COULD BE INTERESTED IN A PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION AND HOW GOE TENDS TO DEAL WITH IT. WE NOTE FROM REF B THAT SAUDI DEPMINFIN AL FURKI WILL BE HERE AT THE SAME TIME, ALTHOUGH THIS MAY BE A COINCIDENCE.

5. AN INDICATION OF ATEEQI'S ATTITUDE CAN BE FOUND IN HIS RESPONSE TO THE CHASE EFFORT TO OBTAIN A KUWAITI GUARANTEE FOR THE GODE-GUARANTEED LOAN (REFTEL) WHICH HAS BEEN REPORTED TO US AS "EXPLOSIVELY NEGATIVE."

 ${\bf 6}.$  COMMENTS FROM EMBASSY KUWAIT ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE APPRECIATED. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 14-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO02659
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:** 

Film Number: D770052-0027

Format: TEL From: CAIRO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770245/aaaabnzr.tel

Line Count: 84 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 99006ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION NEA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

**SAS ID:** 3331616 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, EAID, OVIP, KU, EG, (ATIQI, ADB AL-RAHMAN SALIM AL)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/99006ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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